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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,372	11/12/2003	Ira L. Chavis	POU920020090US1	6366
7590 02/11/2009 Andrew J. Wojnicki, Jr. IBM Corporation - MS P386 2455 South Road Poughkeepsie, NY 12601				
EXAMINER VU, VIET DUY				
ART UNIT 2454		PAPER NUMBER		
MAIL DATE 02/11/2009		DELIVERY MODE PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/706,372

Applicant(s)

CHAVIS ET AL.

Examiner

Viet Vu

Art Unit

2454

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 July 2008.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/03
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

1. Applicant is requested to provide application serial number of the related application cited in page 1 of the specification.

Art Rejections:

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simonoff, U.S. pat. No. 7,162,528.

Per claims 1 and 12, Simonoff discloses a method of assigning hidden object presentation properties to objects

within a presentation graphics application, the method comprising:

providing at least one hidden object presentation property for a selected object (plane or layer), said object being within a presentation page (whiteboard), said at least one hidden object presentation property indicating at least one display attribute for which the selected object is presented during a computer-driven presentation, said computer-driven presentation being deliverable on a plurality of logical displays; and
in response to a user selection, associating a selected hidden object presentation property with said selected object (see col 15, lines 34-41 and col 16, lines 24-29).

Simonoff does not explicitly teach selecting a property for the object via an on-screen user-selectable interface. Simonoff however teaches using a conventional java-enabled browser to implement the invention (see col 14, lines 41-54) in which many operations are conventionally performed by using on-screen user-selectable interface, e.g., clicking on a tab (see col 15, lines 10-18).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize conventional on-screen user-selectable interface, e.g., tabs, dialog boxes,

etc., in Simonoff to allow the user to set/associate hidden property to the object (see col 16, lines 24-29).

Per claims 2-4, Simonoff teaches using the selected property to limit displaying the object only to audience meeting security and privacy levels (see col 15, lines 42-48).

Per claims 5-6, Simonoff teaches associating/grouping many components into an object (plane/layer) (see col 16, lines 24-29).

Per claims 7-10, Simonoff also teaches forming a compound/container object where individual component inherits the compound/container property (see col 16, lines 17-23).

Per claim 11, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art that any components could be removed from the compound/container object.

Claims 12-36 are similar in scope as that of claim 1-11. It is further noted that any conventional display devices would have been used in Simonoff.

Conclusion:

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Viet Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3977. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 4:00pm. The Group general information number is 571-272-2100. The Group fax number is 571-273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn, can be reached on 571-272-1915.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Viet Vu/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454
2/9/09